In the Claims

1-8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 22 ~~9~~ further comprising means disposed between said tray and said optics which presents a medium between said tray and said optics optically coupling said optics to said tray.

11. (currently amended) The apparatus according to Claim 22 ~~9~~ further comprising indicia applied to said tray for identification of said excised tissue disposed therein.

12-20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) An ~~The~~ apparatus ~~according to Claim 21~~ for imaging excised tissue having a refractive index comprising:

a tray upon which excised tissue is to be disposed for imaging, said tray including a window upon which the excised tissue is adapted to be supported;

a clamp, including a finger, for clamping said excised tissue to hold said tissue stationary and against said window; and

optics directed towards the excised tissue and said window for imaging said excised tissue through said window, said tray containing an immersion medium having a refractive index matching the refractive index of said excised tissue, wherein said finger has a spring biasing the finger to hold said excised tissue upon said tray.

23-26. (cancelled)

27. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ holder ~~according to Claim 26~~ to support excised tissue during imaging of said excised tissue, said holder comprising a container having a window upon which said excised tissue is adapted to be disposed, and a clamping

member in said container capable of restraining said excised tissue in a position against said window, wherein said excised tissue is imagable through said window, wherein said clamping member comprises a finger capable of restraining said excised tissue in a position against said window, and a spring biases the finger to restrain said excised tissue against said window.

28-32. (cancelled)

33. (currently amended) A ~~The~~ method ~~according to Claim 32~~ for imaging excised tissue comprising the steps of:

providing a container having a surface for placement of said tissue;

restraining said tissue in said container against said surface to keep said tissue stationary and against said surface; and

imaging said tissue through at least part of said surface against which said tissue is held, wherein said restraining step is carried out with the aid of a clamping member located within said container, said clamping member comprises at least one finger, and said restraining step further comprises the step of biasing said finger against said tissue with a spring to restrain said tissue against said surface.

34-35. (cancelled)

36. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 33 ~~30~~ wherein a plurality of the containers of different container types are used to image respective different types of excised tissues, each container type having associated therewith a respective liquid having a refractive index, the respective liquid being positioned in an imaging path for imaging of the respective tissue and the refractive index of the respective liquid associated with a respective one of said plurality of containers being selected in accordance with the respective refractive index of the type of said excised tissue.

37. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 36 wherein one of said container types is used to image excised tissue from a kidney and includes a

respective first liquid having an index of refraction suitable for imaging excised tissue from the kidney.

38. (previously presented) The method according to Claims 37 wherein a second of said container types is used to image excised tissue from a liver and includes a respective second liquid, of different refractive index from that of said first liquid, and suitable for imaging excised tissue from the liver.

39. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 38 wherein a third of said container types is used to image excised tissue from a cervix and includes a respective third liquid, of different refractive index from that of said first liquid and said second liquid, and suitable for imaging excised tissue from the cervix.

40. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 36 wherein the liquid also serves as a tissue preservative or fixative.

41. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 33 ~~30~~ wherein said container includes an immersion medium having a refractive index suitable as a match for the refractive index of said excised tissue.

42. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 36 wherein each container type includes a window having a first surface upon which the respective excised tissue is engaged during imaging, the respective refractive indices of the windows of the different container types being different from each other and being dependent upon the type of tissue for imaging using the respective container type.

43. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 42 wherein imaging is made by a laser beam.

44. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 43 wherein imaging is made of portions of the tissue several millimeters from the first surface.

45. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 33 ~~30~~ wherein imaging is made of portions of the tissue several millimeters from the surface.

46-47. (cancelled)

48. (currently amended) The tray system of Claim 49 ~~47~~ wherein the respective media of the different tray types comprise liquids of different refractive indices.

49. (currently amended) For use with an imaging system, a tray system for imaging excised tissues having different respective refractive indices, the tray system comprising:

a plurality of trays of different tray types, each tray type having associated therewith a respective medium having a different refractive index from that of the other tray types, the respective medium being adapted to be positioned in an imaging path of the imaging system, the refractive index of a respective medium associated with a respective one of said plurality of trays being selected in accordance with the respective refractive index of the type of excised tissue, ~~The tray system of Claim 46~~ wherein the respective medium for each tray of the tray system comprises a window and each tray of the tray system further comprises at least one ~~includes a~~ spring biased finger ~~clamp member~~ for urging the excised tissue against the window for imaging the respective tissue through the window.

50. (currently amended) An imaging system for imaging excised tissues having different respective refractive indices, the imaging system comprising:

a plurality of trays of different tray types, each tray of each tray type having a surface against which can excised tissue is adapted to be supported for imaging and each tray type having associated therewith a respective medium having a different refractive index from that of the other tray types, the respective medium being adapted to be positioned in an imaging path of the imaging system, the refractive index of a respective

medium associated with a respective one of said plurality of trays being selected in accordance with the respective refractive index of the type of excised tissue; ~~and~~

optics directed towards an excised tissue and establishing the imaging path for imaging the excised tissue through the surface of the tray; and

at least one spring biased finger to retain said excised tissue against the surface of the tray.